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BROWN, JONES & CO.  
AMERICAN AND CHINESE MARBLE,  
CROSSES AND COLUMNS  
HEADSTONES AND STOOLS.  
Prices moderate. Work Promptly Done.  
3937 Satisfaction Guaranteed.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

## CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED  
WATERS.

Our NEW FACTORY has been recently refitted with automatic Steam Machinery of the latest and most approved kind, and we are well able to compete in quality with the best English makers.

The present ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

## BOMBAY SODAS."

We continue to supply large bottles, as heretofore, Free of Extra Charge; to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to this or diary size.

COAST POET ORDERS, whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

For COAST POETS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Expenses when received in good condition:

Counterfoil Order Books supplied free on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is  
"DISPENSARY, HONGKONG".  
And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:—

PURE AERATED WATER  
SODA WATER  
LEMONADE  
POTATO WATER  
SELTZER WATER  
LITHIA WATER  
SABASA PILLA WATER  
TONIC WATER  
GINGER ALE  
GINGERADE  
LEMON SQUASH  
RASPBERRYADE.

No Credit given for Bottles that look dirty or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Waters, as such Bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.  
The Hongkong Dispensary, Hongkong. [10]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.  
Only communications relating to the news column should be addressed to "The Editor".

For the convenience of our readers and friends, and with our communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

No anonymously signed communications should be accepted.

For extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.

After the paper has been published.

Telegraphic Address Press,  
P. O. Box 20. Telephone No. 13.

BIRTH.—At Bowrington, on the 29th May, the wife of J. Bruce, of 1235 MARRIAGE.

On the 21st inst., at St. Mary's, Boltons, S.W., by the Rev. W. W. Macdonald, rector of the bride, Rev. George Farmer, and the groom, Mr. John G. Grant, Rector, to Mrs. Margaret Allen, elder daughter of the late E. C. Bowes, Commissioner of M. C. Customs, China.

DEATH.—On Friday 10th April, at Moray College, Blackheath, Benjamin Stane, late of China and Japan, bronchitis, aged 37 years.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JUNE 1st, 1893.

In the Post Office report for last year an explanation is given of the unsatisfactory working of the local delivery system. Mr. Northcote enumerates four causes as contributing to this, viz. (1) the want of sufficient room in which to carry out the work, (2) the non-appointment of the full staff which the late Mr. Lister deemed necessary for the efficient carrying out of the work, (3) the difficulty that is experienced in making the postmen understand where private residences are situated, and (4) the fact that a town which extends for at least three miles in length and has two large and important suburbs like Kowloon and the Peak has to be served from a single Post Office. We are all more or less familiar with the difficulty of making bricks without straw, and we cannot expect a satisfactory postal service unless adequate facilities are afforded to the department. That the present Post Office has become too small for the requirements has now been recognised for some time, but in the present state of the Colonial finances we are not likely to get a new one for some years to come. The establishment of branch post offices, however, is a smaller scheme which might very well be carried out at once. Mr. Northcote suggests that they should be established at the Peak and Kowloon and in the Eastern and Western suburbs. With these branch offices it would, we are told, be possible to arrange, for two-hourly, if not hourly, deliveries all over the town, while on mail days the convenience to residents in the suburbs would be very great. The branch offices would entail some little additional outlay at the beginning, but this would probably very soon be more than made up for by the increased revenue. The present state of things, under which it is practically impossible to conduct local correspondence through the Post Office account of the extreme delay involved, is simply disgraceful.

Another point touched upon in the report is the want of adhesiveness in the postage stamps, which the Acting Postmaster-General tells us has caused much annoyance to the Department and the public. With the annoyance caused to the public we are all unhappy only too familiar, and the information that the Department also suffers will be generally received with sent out this year.

grim satisfaction. The matter, Mr. Northcote says, has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Crown Agents; and the same trouble is, he understands, experienced in other Colonies situated within the tropics. The Crown Agents are the old men of the sea to the Crown Colonies and it will be a happy day for the latter when they can throw them off. As to the particular grievance under notice, it would be too painful to suggest that the Crown Agents make a squeeze out of the gum, but still the question remains, why don't they give us enough? If the Colony were allowed to make its own arrangements with regard to stamps it would be able to get an article that would give satisfaction, but being compelled to deal with the Crown Agents it has to accept and pay for an article of inferior quality.

A third point of local interest touched upon in the report is the existence of numerous illicit Chinese post offices in the Colony. A Board was appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire what measures could be devised to stop them, and submitted its report in August last. A good deal of the correspondence passing through the offices in question, being destined for places in China where the Hongkong Post Office has no agency, nothing can be done so far as this class of correspondence is concerned, and under the circumstances the question arises whether it is worth while to try to interfere with the illicit offices, which are an undoubted convenience to the native community, for the sake of stopping their dealing in correspondence exchanged between places where regular post offices exist, as, for instance, Hongkong and Bangkok. In another part of the report, already referred to, Mr. Northcote lays stress on the fact that a town three miles long has to be served by one Post Office. If the correspondence now passing through the illicit native offices is to be secured the Government must in the first place provide authorised branch offices through which the native community may be able to post and receive its correspondence as conveniently as it does through the illicit offices. So long as the latter meet a great public want which the Government is unable or unwilling to meet it seems doubtful policy to attempt to shut them up for the sake of securing a slight increase in the revenue. In the controversy which arose in London some time ago between the Post Office and the Messenger Boys' Agency the principle was established, if we remember aright, that the public convenience should rank before mere considerations of revenue.

H.M.S. *Mercy* left yesterday for Takao.

The delivery of the French mail was begun at 3.35 a.m. yesterday.

The Chinese cruisers *Kiangtsing*, *Kwangtsing*, and *Kuangting* arrived yesterday from Canton.

The Superintendent informs us that the P. O. steamer *Bombay* arrived at London on the 29th May.

We hear that H.M.S. *Penguin*, Capt. Balfour, will leave to-morrow for the Palawan Islands and Australia.

The programme for the Gymkhana Meeting to be held on the 17th inst. is published and promises an interesting afternoon's amusement.

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